

DATE: August 31, 2016

TO: Vaccines for Children & Adult Immunization Program Providers

FROM: Nebraska Immunization Program

RE: Availability of Influenza (Flu) Vaccine

The Nebraska Immunization Program does not yet know when flu vaccines will be available to order. Do not schedule flu clinics until vaccine is available to order as we can't guarantee dates of vaccine delivery.

Vaccine will not be available to order until we have all presentations available and enough vaccine to provide all clinics with a substantial amount of vaccine. As a federal entitlement program we receive the flu vaccine we pre-booked in waves. This is due to the doses not arriving at the depot all at once. Before we can make flu doses available for providers to order we have to receive enough doses to disperse to every provider and that has not happened yet.

Flu vaccine status updates will be available on the Nebraska Immunization Program website:

<http://dhhs.ne.gov/publichealth/Immunization/Pages/Influenza.aspx>

We will let clinics know VIA fax and email, when it is time to start ordering vaccine. You will need to place your flu vaccine orders in NESIIS just like your regular vaccines. You will also do all of your reporting through NESIIS.

There are a few very important reminders:

- **Do not** borrow flu doses. The Federal Government does not allow borrowing of flu doses between private and other public stock (VFC or Adult). This includes no borrowing between VFC and Adult. This is due to the fact that the program may not be able to replace the same type of flu product or replace within the same flu season.
- **Do not** use half of a 0.5 mL syringe for a 6 month through 35 month old and waste the rest
- **Do not** split a 0.5 mL syringe among two 6 month through 35 month olds infants. Although this is tempting when infant flu vaccine formulations are not available, the vaccine is not licensed to be used in this manner
- **Do not** combine two 0.25 mL syringes to make an adult dose

Should you have any questions please contact the Nebraska Immunization Program at (402) 471-6423 or (800) 798-1696. You may also send questions to the Nebraska Immunization Program Community Health Nurse assigned to your clinic.